

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 STR-04 SSO-00  
AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 EA-07 FRB-03  
INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00  
LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-05  
L-03 H-01 /106 W

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

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INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS 755

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USMISSION OECD PARIS 8033

DEPT PASS LABOR FOR METCALF; TREASURY; EUR/RPE GELBARD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, OECD

SUBJECT: TRADE UNION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TUAC) REQUEST  
FOR CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO ECONOMIC SUMMIT

REF: (A) OECD PARIS 07685; (B) STATE 058891

1. AT MARCH 17 HEADS OF DEL MEETING USDEL (AMB TURNER)  
ASKED THAT DISCUSSION BE POSTPONED AS INSTRUCTED IN  
REF B. THE JAPANESE SUPPORTED THIS SUGGESTION, WHICH  
WAS AGREED WITHOUT FURTHER DISCUSSION. ISSUE RE-  
SCHEDULED FOR HEADS OF DEL MEETING ON MARCH 24.

2. VAN LENNEP THEN ASKED DEPSEC GEN WOOTTON TO SUPPLE-  
MENT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN VAN LENNEP'S LETTER  
(REF A) WITH AN ORAL BRIEFING. WOOTTON STATED THAT  
TUAC REPS HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE EFFECTIVE  
MANAGEMENT OF THE ECONOMIC SYSTEM INCLUDING UNEMPLOY-  
MENT PROBLEM AND WISHED TO BE IN A POSITION TO SUPPORT  
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GOVERNMENTAL EFFORTS. THEY WERE ALSO CONCERNED OVER  
PROTECTIONIST PRESSURES. VAN LENNEP THEN ADDED THAT  
WHAT TUAC WAS PROPOSING WAS NOT A NORMAL CONSULTATION  
BECAUSE OF ITS POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS. HE SAID THAT  
TUAC HAD INDICATED THAT THEY WISHED TO PUBLICIZE THE  
STATEMENTS THEY INTENDED TO PRESENT TO THE MEETING.  
ACCORDINGLY, A DECISION WOULD BE NEEDED ON WHETHER TO

PUBLICIZE STATEMENTS FROM THE OECD SIDE. VAN LENNEP EMPHASIZED THAT THE DATE OF MAY 5 ON WHICH TUAC REQUESTED THE MEETING WAS NOT COINCIDENTAL. TUAC WANTED THE MEETING TO PRECEDE THE SUMMIT BY TWO DAYS.

3. THE UK REP STATED THAT EPC CHAIRMAN SIR DOUGLAS ALLEN HAD AGREED TO COME TO THE MEETING ON MAY 5 AND THAT THE UK LOOKED WITH FAVOR ON THE MEETING. FRENCH REP ALSO THOUGHT MEETING SHOULD BE HELD, NOTING IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO CLOSE THE DOOR ON TUAC.

4. SPANISH AMBASSADOR VALLAURE RAISED QUESTION OF EXTENT TO WHICH UNIONS WHICH DID NOT REPRESENT A MAJORITY OF WORKERS COULD USE THE MEETING TO GAIN LEVERAGE AND INFLUENCE PUBLIC OPINION. THIS WAS AN INTERESTING POLITICAL POINT TO WHICH NO ONE ATTEMPTED TO RESPOND.

5. GERMAN REP SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD PERHAPS BE MORE APPROPRIATE FOR TUAC TO MEET ONLY WITH LIAISON COMMITTEE AND NOT TO HAVE SENIOR OFFICIALS COME FROM CAPITALS. VAN LENNEP RESPONDED THAT THE POINT OF THE TUAC REQUEST WAS TO MEET WITH ECONOMIC POLICY OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS, AND THE NORWEGIAN REP ADDED THAT TUAC WISHED TO GIVE ITS CONCERNS GREATER EMPHASIS THAN WOULD BE POSSIBLE IF THEY MET WITH ANY GROUP OTHER THAN ECONOMIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

6. THE QUESTION WAS ASKED AS TO WHETHER THE ONLY OECD REPRESENTATIVES COULD BE THOSE FROM COUNTRIES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE. VAN LENNEP REPLIED THAT ONLY REPRESENTATIVES OF LIAISON COMMITTEE MEMBER COUNTRIES COULD PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSION THOUGH OTHER OECD COUNTRIES COULD OBSERVE. THERE WAS NO DISSENT FROM THIS JUDGMENT. (NOTE: THE LIAISON COMMITTEE FOR BIAC AND TUAC HAS THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS: AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY, JAPAN, NETHERLANDS, SWEDEN, UK AND US.)

7. COMMENT: FACT THAT TUAC INTENDS TO PUBLICIZE ITS STATEMENTS ON EVE OF SUMMIT ADDS AN INTERESTING DIMENSION TO THE PROPOSED MEETING. TUAC IS NATURALLY FREE TO PUBLICIZE ANYTHING IT WISHES THOUGH ONE MAY QUESTION THE APPROPRIATENESS OF THEIR USING A MEETING WITH OECD MEMBERS AS A LAUNCHING PAD. HOWEVER, OUR INCLINATION WOULD BE FOR OECD NOT TO ISSUE ITS OWN STATEMENT WHICH WOULD INEVITABLY BE EXTREMELY HARD TO NEGOTIATE AND WHICH MIGHT ENGAGE THE ORGANIZATION IN A PUBLIC DEBATE OF QUESTIONABLE VALUE AND APPROPRIATENESS, ESPECIALLY

COMING AS IT WOULD ON THE EVE OF THE SUMMIT.

8. AT THE MEETING WITH TUAC ITSELF, WE THINK IT  
WOULD BE USEFUL FOR OECD THINKING TO BE PRESENTED  
IN A UNIFIED MANNER AND FOR THAT REASON BELIEVE WE  
SHOULD CONSIDER ARRANGEMENT BY WHICH DOUGLAS ALLEN  
WOULD EITHER BE ONLY EPC MEMBER PRESENT OR WOULD BE  
ONLY (OR AT LEAST PRINCIPAL) SPOKESMAN, CONFINING  
HIMSELF TO BROAD CONCLUSIONS REACHED AT LAST EPC  
MEETING SUPPLEMENTED BY DISCUSSION AT BUREAU MEETING  
ON APRIL 29. IF SENIOR ECONOMIC POLICY LEVEL OFFICIALS  
ARE TO ATTEND, THEY SHOULD PROBABLY LIMIT THEIR  
COMMENTS TO SUPPORT OF EPC CHAIRMAN'S PRESENTATION,  
RATHER THAN OPEN NEW AVENUES OF DEBATE ON THIS  
OCCASION.  
TURNER

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## Message Attributes

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